

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) An ultrasonic probe comprising:

an ultrasonic transceiver unit; and

an enclosure that encloses the unit, the enclosure comprising:

a first partial enclosure formed of hard plastics having an opening at the tip,
the ultrasonic transceiver unit extending through the opening; and

a second partial enclosure integrally formed with the first partial enclosure so as to cover the opening to extend from the tip, the second partial enclosure being formed of soft plastics and having a transmission/reception surface of the ultrasonic transceiver unit in contact therewith from inside the enclosure.

2. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the integrated molding of the first partial enclosure and the second partial enclosure is performed by double molding.

3. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the part of the second partial enclosure in contact with the transmission/reception surface is a thin film.

4. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastics is polycarbonate.

5. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastics is poly-butylene-terephthalate.

6. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastics are ABS resin.

7. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the hard plastics are thermoplastic resin.

8. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the soft plastics are thermoplastic polymer.

9. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the ultrasonic transceiver unit includes an ultrasonic transducer array.

10. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 9, wherein the ultrasonic transducer array include an acoustic lens on the transmission/reception surface.

11. (original) An ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the second partial enclosure has a color corresponding to the center frequency of ultrasonic waves.

12. (new) An enclosure for an ultrasonic transceiver unit, the enclosure comprising:

a first portion comprising a tip, the tip having an opening through which the ultrasonic transceiver unit extends; and

a second portion integrally formed with the first portion to cover the opening, the second portion having an inner surface in contact with a transmission/reception surface of the ultrasonic transceiver unit.

13. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion and the second portion are coupled by double molding.

14. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the inner surface of the second portion comprises a thin film.

15. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a polycarbonate.

16. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a poly-butylene-terephthalate.

17. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises an ABS resin.

18. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the first portion comprises a thermoplastic resin.

19. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the second portion comprises a thermoplastic polymer.

20. (new) An enclosure according to claim 12, wherein the second portion has a color corresponding to a center frequency of ultrasonic waves transmitted by the ultrasonic transceiver unit.